

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 1-2. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to better define the invention by reciting that the change in relative position of the printing apparatus to the blanks formed from the web is effected "in a single working step". Support for the claims may be found, inter alia, in the disclosure at page 3, lines 13-18 and page 4, lines 16-21. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

Claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art at page 2, line 6 to page 3, line 12 of the specification. Specifically, it is said that the claims are met by the prior processes in which an imprinted blank was removed as a sample from a web fed to an apparatus and as a result of examining the removed blank, corrections to the apparatus were made through input of an operator via plus or minus keys.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

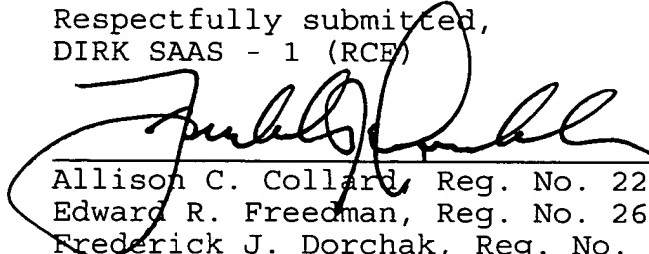
As set forth in claims 1 and 2, as amended, Applicant's invention provides a method for producing envelopes which permits any required correction of the position of the printed image within the blank to be carried out in one single step irrespective of the magnitude of the required corrective

movement. In contrast, the process discussed as prior art in the specification was a process of trial and error. In this process, an imprinted blank was removed as a sample, the removed blank was examined, and corrections were made to the apparatus based on this examination through input via plus or minus keys. The operator, however, did not know how often or how long to touch the key to make the correction. He or she only knew the direction of correction; how long to press the plus or minus key or knob was mere guesswork. In Applicant's invention, however, because the difference between the determined actual spacing and a preset spacing is computed, the operator is able to simply feed in the needed correction as a number, for example, -21.4 mm, and the apparatus moves the knife just these 21.4 mm relative to the web in the right direction. In other words, the machine makes exactly the necessary correction movement in contrast to the step-by-step or incremental approach of the prior art which often required numerous incremental adjustment steps which, in turn, translated into a lengthy adjustment operation and also led to a high rejection quota.

In summary, Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that the application be passed to issue.

Applicant also submits herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement citing three references cited in the European Search Report on the corresponding European application.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

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